

# Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Tendring District Council

Electoral review

March 2017

## **Translations and other formats**

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# Summary

## Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

2 Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

## Electoral review

3 An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

- How many councillors are needed
- How many wards or electoral divisions should there be, where are their boundaries and what should they be called
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division

## Why Tending?

4 We are conducting a review of Tending as the value of each vote in district council elections varies depending on where you live in Tending. Some councillors currently represent many more or fewer voters than others. This is 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where votes are as equal as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal. The Council also resolved to request an electoral review in order to examine the appropriate number of councillors for the district.

## Our proposals for Tending

- Tending District Council should be represented by 48 councillors, twelve fewer than there are now.
- Tending District Council should have 27 wards, eight fewer than there are now.
- The boundaries of 26 wards should change; one, Brightlingsea, will stay the same.

## Have your say

5 We are consulting on our draft recommendations for an eight-week period, from 14 March 2017 to 8 May 2017. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to contribute to the design of the new wards – the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be when analysing all the views we receive.

6 We ask everyone wishing to contribute ideas for the new wards to first read this report and look at the accompanying map before responding to us.

**You have until 8 May 2017 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 21 for how to send us your response.**

## What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

7 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

8 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors (Chair)
- Alison Lowton
- Peter Maddison QPM
- Sir Tony Redmond
- Peter Knight CBE, DL
  
- Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

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<sup>1</sup> Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

# 1 Introduction

9 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in Tendring are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the district.

## What is an electoral review?

10 Our three main considerations are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

11 Our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Consultation

12 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Tendring. We then held a period of consultation on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

13 This review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
18 October 2016	Number of councillors decided
25 October 2016	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
9 January 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
14 March 2017	Publication of draft recommendations, start of second consultation
8 May 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
11 July 2017	Publication of final recommendations

## How will the recommendations affect you?

14 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in and which other communities are in that ward. Your ward name may also change.



## 2 Analysis and draft recommendations

15 Legislation<sup>2</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>3</sup> there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

16 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

17 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2016	2022
Electorate of Tendring	112,258	116,000
Number of councillors	48	48
Average number of electors per councillor	2,339	2,417

18 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All of our proposed wards for Tendring will have electoral equality by 2022.

19 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the district or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

### Submissions received

20 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed at our offices by appointment, or on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

### Electorate figures

21 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2022, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2017. These

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<sup>2</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 3% by 2022.

22 We considered the information provided by the Council and are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our draft recommendations.

## Number of councillors

23 Tendring District Council currently has 60 councillors. Before the start of the review, we received two submissions on the appropriate number of councillors. The District Council proposed a reduction of twelve members. Councillor Turner (Frinton ward) suggested that 60 councillors be retained. We carefully looked at evidence provided by the Council and Councillor Turner. We concluded that the Council had thoroughly considered the implications of a reduced council size, particularly in relation to its governance functions. We considered that 48 members would ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

24 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 48 councillors – for example, 48 one-councillor wards, 16 threecouncillor wards, or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

25 We received two submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on wards. These were from Douglas Carswell MP (Clacton) and a member of the public who both supported our proposals. We have therefore based our draft recommendations on a 48-member council.

## Ward boundaries consultation

26 We received 16 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included a district-wide proposal from Tendring District Council and a warding scheme for Clacton from a member of the public.

27 The Council's district-wide scheme provided for a mixed pattern of three twomember and 42 one-member wards for Tendring. The member of the public proposed that Clacton's nineteen councillors should represent one single-member and nine two-member wards.

28 We also received submissions relating to specific parts of the district from parish councils and local residents.

29 Our draft recommendations are based on a combination of the Council's district-wide scheme and the local resident's scheme in Clacton. In some areas of the district we have also taken into account local evidence that we received which provided evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas, we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries. We also

visited the area in order to look at the various proposals on the ground. This tour of Tendring helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

30 In its submission, the Council's Electoral Review Working Group expressed a preference for single-member wards. While we have proposed eleven singlemember wards, there were many areas of the district where we were not persuaded that we could accommodate them. In particular, we were of the view that some of the proposed single-member wards would not use clearly identifiable boundaries and, in some areas, would divide cohesive communities. During this consultation, we would welcome alternative patterns of single-, as well as two- and three-member wards, and will give them serious consideration should we receive sufficient evidence.

31 Our draft recommendations are for five three-councillor wards, eleven twocouncillor wards and eleven one-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation.

32 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table on page 19 and on the large map accompanying this report.

33 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries, and the names of our proposed wards.

## Draft recommendations

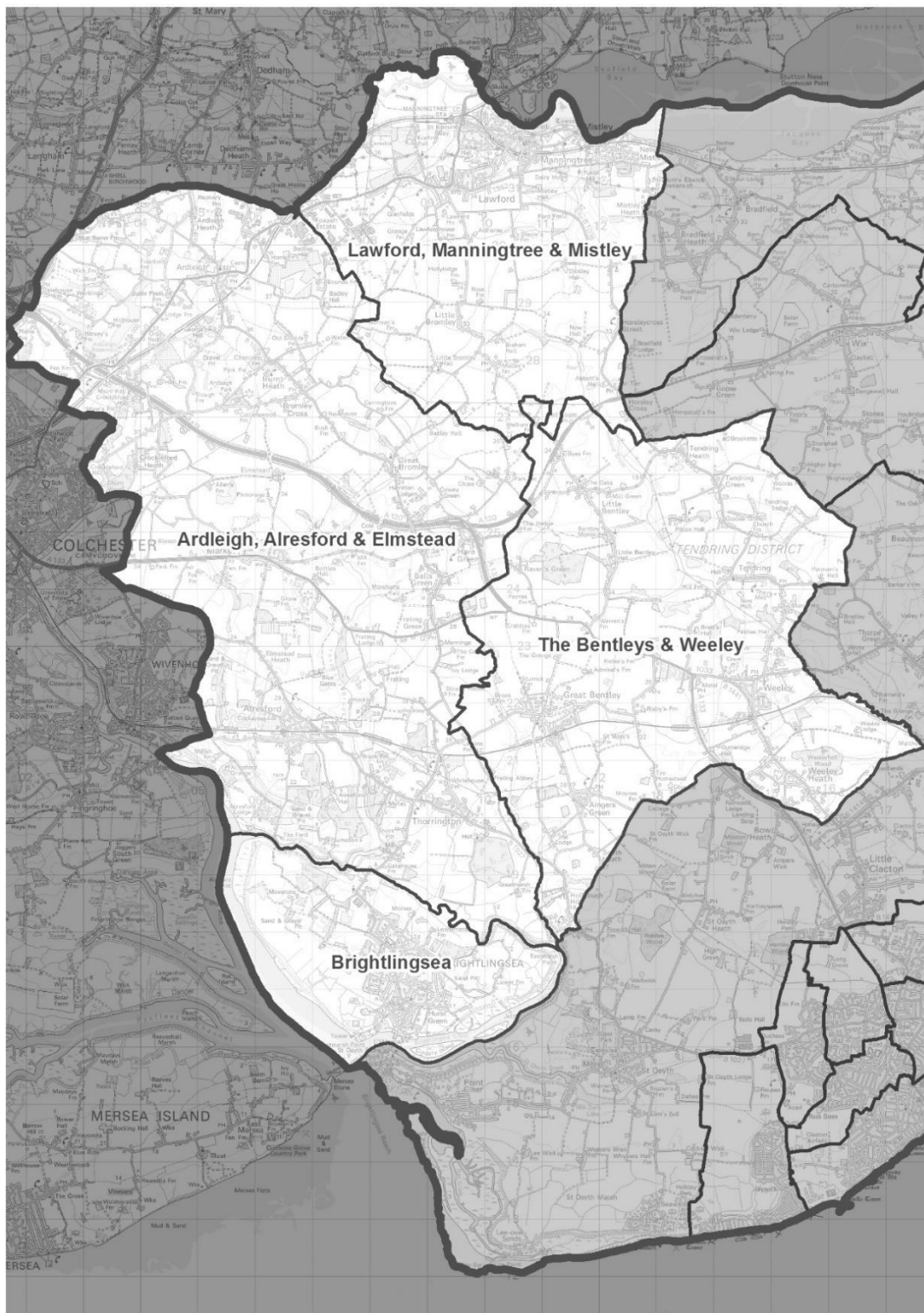
34 The tables and maps on pages 8–18 detail our draft recommendations for each area of Tendring. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>4</sup> criteria of:

- Equality of representation
- Reflecting community interests and identities
- Providing for effective and convenient local government

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<sup>4</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## Brightlingsea and west Tendring



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2022
Ardleigh, Alresford & Elmstead	3	6%
Brightlingsea	3	-8%
Lawford, Manningtree & Mistley	3	-1%
The Bentleys & Weeley	2	-8%

### *Brightlingsea*

35 We received four submissions in relation to Brightlingsea. The Council proposed three single-member wards largely made up of the current polling districts. A town councillor and a member of the public argued in favour of a three-member ward, explaining that the town operated as a whole and dividing it was unnecessary. Brightlingsea Town Council expressed a preference for a three-member ward and considered three single-member wards to be a fall-back option.

36 On balance, we consider the evidence in favour of a three-member ward is stronger and so are proposing this as part of our draft recommendations. We also note that, were we to divide Brightlingsea into three single-member wards, we would be required to create town council wards coterminous with the district wards, and that Brightlingsea Town Council is opposed to this.

### *Lawford, Manningtree & Mistley*

37 We received four submissions in relation to this area. The Council proposed a single-member Mistley ward and a two-member Lawford & Manningtree ward. Lawford Parish Council and Manningtree Town Council proposed a three-member ward consisting of the Bradfield, Lawford, Manningtree and Mistley areas. Mistley Parish Council proposed a three-member ward consisting of Lawford, Manningtree and Mistley. The town and parish councils explained that they are closely linked and that Lawford, Manningtree and Mistley have been grouped as a smaller urban settlement in Tendring District Council's Local Plan.

38 We have adopted the proposal of Mistley Parish Council as part of our draft recommendations as this creates the best overall warding scheme in this part of Tendring but we have also added Little Bromley parish as this improves electoral equality in the area.

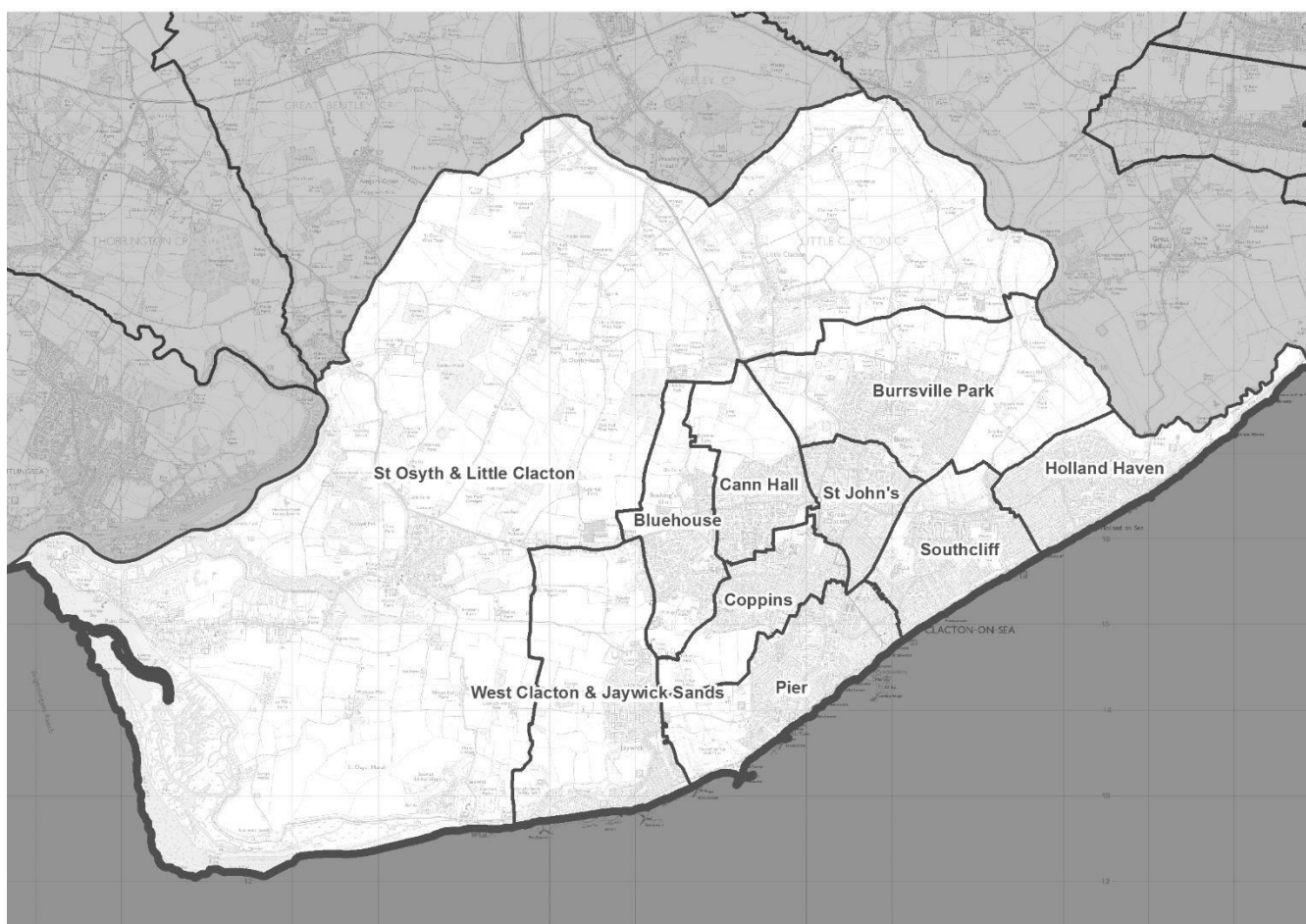
### *Ardleigh, Alresford & Elmstead and The Bentleys & Weeley*

39 We received three submissions in relation to this area. The Council proposed five single-member wards, one of which, Alresford & Thorrington, would have an electoral variance of 16%. Thorrington Parish Council expressed a preference for the current arrangements to continue, which would have led to a variance of -18% in its ward by 2022. Elmstead Parish Council stated that it shared services and amenities with Alresford, Ardleigh, Frating and Great Bromley parishes (as well as Wivenhoe in the Colchester borough).

40 We considered that the submission of Elmstead Parish Council was persuasive but we have added Thorrington to the proposed ward in order to ensure better electoral equality.

41 Removing Frating from the Council's proposed The Bentleys & Frating ward would lead to a ward with considerable electoral inequality so we have combined Great and Little Bentley with Tendring and Weeley parishes to create a two-member ward. We consider that this best reflects our statutory criteria in this part of the district.

## Clacton and St Osyth



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2022
Bluehouse	2	-6%
Burrsville Park	2	-6%
Cann Hall	2	1%
Coppins	2	6%
Holland Haven	2	1%
Pier	3	8%
Southcliff	2	-1%
St John's	2	1%
St Osyth & Little Clacton	3	-8%
West Clacton & Jaywick Sands	2	-8%

### *St Osyth & Little Clacton*

- 42 We received two submissions relating to St Osyth. The Council proposed the parish continue to form a two-member ward with an electoral variance of -17%, arguing that, while St Osyth parish ward would have acceptable electoral equality as a single-member district ward, Point Clear parish ward would not. Combining St Osyth with any other neighbouring parish would lead to electoral

inequality of more than +/-10%. The Council also argued that following a recent planning inquiry, around 90 new homes would be built in the St Osyth area, but it was unclear to us whether these homes had been included in Council's electoral forecast. St Osyth Parish Council stated that it supported the District Council's submission.

43 While we accept that creating a warding pattern with good electoral equality is difficult in this area, we do not consider the very high level of electoral inequality proposed to be acceptable. We have given careful consideration to alternative warding patterns for this area. We examined the possibility of linking the Point Clear area in a ward with some or all of Brightlingsea and that the remainder of St Osyth parish form a single-member ward. However, there are no clear communication and transport links between Point Clear and Brightlingsea, with both areas separated by Brightlingsea Creek. We were not persuaded that this would provide for effective and convenient local government. We also considered combining a part of the unparished Clacton area with St Osyth but concluded there was no obvious warding arrangement that would adequately reflect community identities.

44 In light of the above, we are proposing to join St Osyth with Little Clacton parish (as well as a small part of Clacton north of St John's Road) in a three-member ward. While we accept that there are limited communication and transport links between parts of our proposed ward, we consider this option is preferable to joining the area with parts of Brightlingsea. Furthermore, we are of the view that it is better to unite distinct and separate communities in the same ward than to allow very high electoral inequality. Therefore, we propose a three-member St Osyth & Little Clacton ward as part of our draft recommendations. We would particularly welcome views and comments on our proposals for this area during the consultation on our draft recommendations.

#### *West Clacton & Jaywick Sands*

45 We received submissions for Clacton from the Council and a local resident, both of which proposed a warding pattern for nineteen councillors covering the town. The resident proposed one single-member ward and nine two-member wards; the Council proposed seventeen single-member wards and one two-member ward. We received a submission from a second resident proposing minor changes to the Pier, St Pauls, St Johns and St Bartholomews wards.

46 In west Clacton, the resident proposed a two-member ward combining Jaywick with the Hastings Avenue area, south of West Road. The Council proposed combining Jaywick with the new development at Rouses Farm.

47 Having visited the area, we consider that the Council's proposal provides a much better reflection of community identity in this part of Clacton so propose to adopt a variant of it as part of our draft recommendations. To improve electoral equality, we have amended the proposed ward to lie wholly south of St John's Road and west of Jaywick Lane.

### *Bluehouse and Cann Hall*

48 The Council's Bockings Elm and Rush Green wards covered broadly the same area as the resident's two-member Bluehouse ward. We prefer the resident's proposal in this area, noting in particular his submission that it will reunite the Bluehouse estate in a single ward. However, to improve electoral equality we have moved the ward's eastern boundary to follow the footpath that runs north of Woodrows Lane.

49 In relation to our proposed Cann Hall ward, we did not consider that the Council's proposed boundaries around St John's Road or to the east of Cottage Grove were satisfactory and so have adopted the resident's scheme in this area. However, we prefer the name Cann Hall as both the Hall itself and Cann Hall Primary School are close to the centre of our proposed ward.

### *Coppins and Pier*

50 The Council proposed five single-member wards in this area that were comparable to the two, two-member and one single-member wards proposed by the resident. Having visited the area, we consider that the boundaries proposed by the resident in relation to his Coppins ward are logical and so propose to adopt it as part of our draft recommendations, subject to some minor changes to improve electoral equality and to add White Hall Academy into this ward.

51 Having adopted the Council's proposals in relation to West Clacton & Jaywick Sands, we considered adding the Hastings Avenue area into the resident's proposed St James ward. However, this would lead to poor electoral equality and we are unwilling to make substantial changes to our proposed Coppins ward as it has good boundaries that appear to reflect community identity. The Council and the resident proposed an identical single-member Pier/Carnarvon ward in the centre of Clacton and we have combined this with the resident's proposed St James ward and the Hastings Avenue area in a three-member Pier ward. We would be particularly interested in receiving comments on this ward during the consultation on our draft recommendations.

### *Burrsville Park and St John's*

52 The Council proposed four single-member wards which almost covered the same area as the two wards proposed by the local resident. Having visited the area, we consider that the boundaries proposed by the resident are more logical, particularly to the south of Burrsville Park and west of London Road, and so propose to adopt them as part of our draft recommendations.

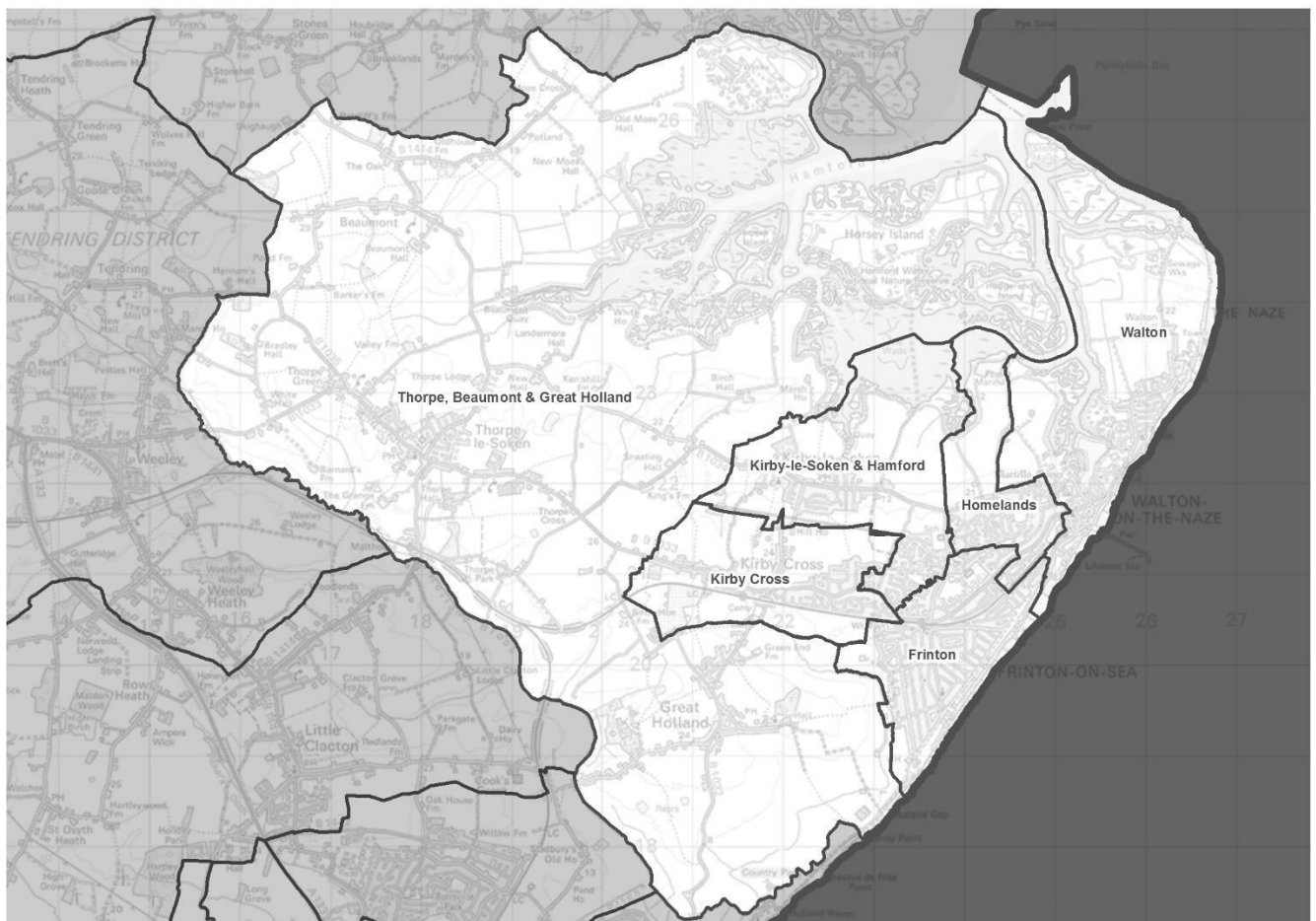
### *Holland Haven and Southcliff*

53 In the south-eastern part of the town we received very similar proposals with the Council's four single-member wards covering the same area as the two, twomember wards proposed by the resident. The second resident proposed moving the boundary between St Pauls and St Bartholomews to Holland Road and



extending the western boundary of St Pauls to Carnarvon Road. We have adopted the first resident's scheme as it leads to a more consistent warding pattern across the town with clear boundaries and good electoral equality.

# Frinton



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2022
<b>Frinton</b>	2	4%
<b>Homelands</b>	1	6%
<b>Kirby Cross</b>	1	6%
<b>Kirby-le-Soken &amp; Hamford</b>	1	6%
<b>Thorpe, Beaumont &amp; Great Holland</b>	1	9%
<b>Walton</b>	1	8%

*Frinton, Homelands, Kirby-le-Soken & Hamford and Walton*

54 The only submission we received for the Frinton area was from the Council. It proposed seven single-member wards covering the parishes of Frinton & Walton, Thorpe-le-Soken and Beaumont-cum-Moze.

55 As the Council acknowledged in its submission, it is impossible to create wards with good electoral equality in Frinton without crossing the railway line: the locally recognised boundary of the town.

56 We visited the area and considered various alternatives to the Council’s scheme that would provide better electoral equality and clearer ward boundaries. We

have concluded that the best way to do this is to join distinct communities in the same ward rather than split existing ones for the sake of electoral equality. We therefore propose to combine the Council's Frinton East and Frinton West wards into a two-member ward that will straddle the railway line. We have also made changes in the north-eastern part of the ward to provide for better electoral equality in our proposed Homelands ward and to create a stronger boundary in the area around the Triangle Shopping Centre.

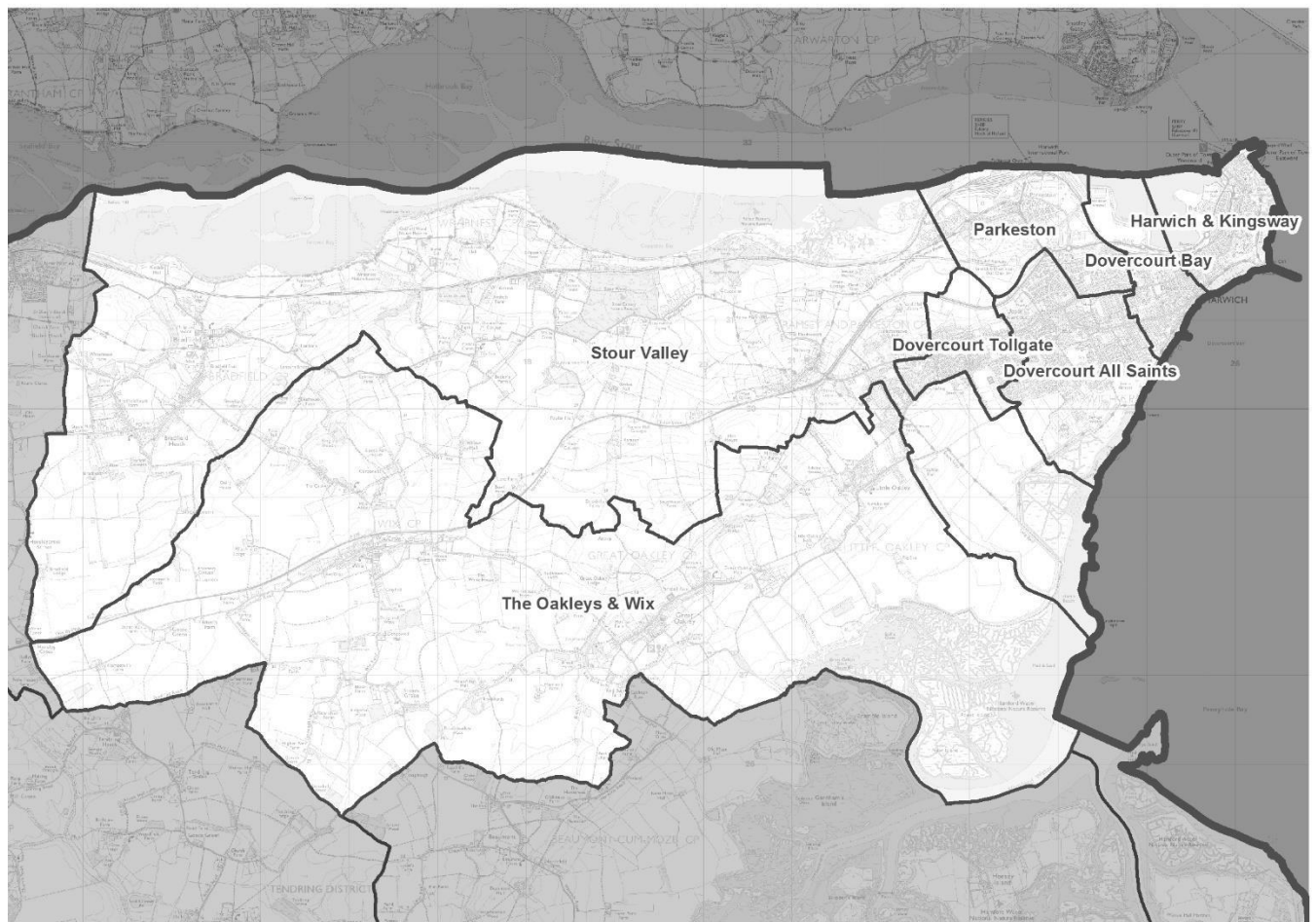
57 As a result of our draft recommendations for Frinton and Homelands wards, we have made minor changes to the Kirby-le-Soken & Hamford and Walton wards proposed by the Council to improve electoral equality and to provide for clearer boundaries. Subject to those changes, we propose to adopt these two wards as part of our draft recommendations.

58 Given the difficult electoral make-up of this area, we would welcome alternative proposals during the consultation on our draft recommendations that provide for good electoral equality.

*Kirby Cross and Thorpe, Beaumont & Great Holland*

59 We consider the wards proposed by the Council to be acceptable in relation to our statutory criteria so have adopted them as part of our draft recommendations without amendment.

## Harwich and east Tendring



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2022
Dovercourt All Saints	2	6%
Dovercourt Bay	1	-9%
Dovercourt Tollgate	1	5%
Harwich & Kingsway	1	5%
Parkeston	1	-7%
Stour Valley	1	6%
The Oakleys & Wix	1	-3%

### *Dovercourt All Saints and Parkeston*

- 60 In Harwich, the Council proposed six single-member wards, one of which included the Parkeston ward of Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council. We also received a submission from Harwich Town Council stating that the District Council's proposals for the town were 'reasonable'.
- 61 The Town Council requested that the boundaries of its own wards are made coterminous with the district wards and that it is given an additional town councillor to bring its ratio of councillors to electors closer to that of other parish and town councils in Tendring.

- 62 We are required to make parish and town council wards coterminous with district wards and county divisions and are proposing new warding arrangements for the Town Council to reflect this. However, our policy is not to change the number of parish or town councillors as part of an electoral review. Tendring District Council has the power to make such changes following a community governance review which will have a bespoke period of consultation.
- 63 In the centre of Harwich, the Council proposed three single-member wards: Dovercourt All Saints, Dovercourt Hall Lane and Spring Meadows & Parkeston. After receiving the submission, it became apparent as we collated the electorate numbers that there would be significant electoral inequality, particularly in the Dovercourt All Saints and Spring Meadows & Parkeston wards. In addition, having visited the area, we did not consider that the proposed Dovercourt All Saints ward satisfied our other two statutory criteria, particularly in relation to in-ward connectivity and the proposed boundary in the Clarkes Road area.
- 64 We considered several alternative solutions but consider that the one that fits best with our statutory criteria is to create a two-member ward by combining the Dovercourt All Saints and Dovercourt Hall Lane wards and to extend its northeastern boundary to Parkeston Road. This also creates a compact area east of Parkeston Road that will be joined with Parkeston ward of Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council to create our new Parkeston ward.
- 65 As we have moved Spring Meadow Primary School into our Dovercourt All Saints ward, we are proposing to rename the Spring Meadows & Parkeston ward 'Parkeston' after both Parkeston itself and Parkeston Road. We would welcome alternative names for this ward, as well as the associated ward of Harwich Town Council as part of the consultation on our draft recommendations.

#### *Dovercourt Bay, Dovercourt Tollgate and Harwich & Kingsway*

- 66 We consider that the three single-member wards proposed by the Council in these areas balance our three statutory criteria satisfactorily and so propose to adopt them as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *Stour Valley*

- 67 Other than the Council's district-wide scheme, the only submissions we had in this area related to Bradfield parish. Given our proposals for Lawford, Manningtree & Mistley ward, as set out above, we propose to adopt the Council's Stour Valley ward as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *The Oakleys & Wix*

- 68 In addition to the Council's submission, we received a submission from Little Oakley Parish Council proposing three alternative warding patterns for the northern part of the district. The Parish Council's preferred scheme was identical to that of the

District Council so we are proposing to adopt The Oakleys & Wix ward as part of our draft recommendations.

## Conclusions

69 The table below shows the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2016 and 2022 electorate figures.

### Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2016	2022
Number of councillors	48	48
Number of electoral wards	27	27
Average number of electors per councillor	2,339	2,417
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	2	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

#### **Draft recommendation**

Tendring District Council should be made up of 48 councillors serving 27 wards representing eleven single-councillor wards, eleven two-councillor wards and five three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

#### **Mapping**

**Sheet 1, Map 1** shows the proposed wards for Tendring.

**You can also view our draft recommendations for Tendring District Council on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>**

## Parish electoral arrangements

70 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

71 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, Tendring District Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

72 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Frinton & Walton Town Council and Harwich Town Council.

73 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Frinton & Walton parish.

<b>Draft recommendation</b> Frinton & Walton Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing six wards:	
<b>Parish ward</b>	<b>Number of parish councillors</b>
Frinton	5
Great Holland	1
Homelands	3
Kirby Cross	2
Kirby-le-Soken & Hamford	2
Walton	3

74 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Harwich parish.

<b>Draft recommendation</b> Harwich Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing five wards:	
<b>Parish ward</b>	<b>Number of parish councillors</b>
Dovercourt All Saints	6
Dovercourt Bay	2



Dovercourt North	2
Dovercourt Tollgate	3
Harwich & Kingsway	3

### 3 Have your say

- 75 The Commission has an open mind about its draft recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of who it is from or whether it relates to the whole borough or just a part of it.
- 76 If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don't think our recommendations are right for Tendring District Council, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.
- 77 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)
- 78 Submissions can also be made by emailing [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) or by writing to:
- Review Officer (Tendring)**  
**The Local Government Boundary Commission for England**  
**14th Floor, Millbank Tower**  
**Millbank**  
**London SW1P 4QP**
- 79 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Tendring District Council which delivers:
- Electoral equality: each local councillor represents a similar number of voters.
  - Community identity: reflects the identity and interests of local communities
  - Effective and convenient local government: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.
- 80 A good pattern of wards should:
- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of voters.
  - Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
  - Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
  - Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.
- 81 Electoral equality:
- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of voters as elsewhere in the council area?

82 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

83 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

84 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices in Millbank (London) and on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk) A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

85 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers, such as postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

86 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

87 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for Tendring District Council in 2019.

## Equalities

88 This report has been screened for impact on equalities, with due regard being given to the general equalities duties as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. As no potential negative impacts were identified, a full equality impact analysis is not required.

## Appendix A

### Draft recommendations for Tendring District Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Ardleigh, Alresford & Elmstead	3	7,221	2,407	3%	7,712	2,571	6%
2	Bluehouse	2	4,113	2,057	-12%	4,556	2,278	-6%
3	Brightlingsea	3	6,604	2,201	-6%	6,667	2,222	-8%
4	Burrsville Park	2	4,391	2,196	-6%	4,539	2,270	-6%
5	Cann Hall	2	4,704	2,352	1%	4,865	2,433	1%
6	Coppins	2	5,091	2,546	9%	5,113	2,557	6%
7	Dovercourt All Saints	2	4,983	2,492	7%	5,101	2,551	6%
8	Dovercourt Bay	1	2,217	2,217	-5%	2,209	2,209	-9%
	Dovercourt 9 Tollgate	1	2,356	2,356	1%	2,534	2,534	5%
10	Frinton	2	5,093	2,547	9%	5,044	2,522	4%
	Harwich & 11 Kingsway	1	2,558	2,558	9%	2,532	2,532	5%

12 Holland Haven	2	4,882	2,441	4%	4,881	2,441	1%
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Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Homelands	1	2,535	2,536	8%	2,563	2,563	6%
14 Kirby Cross	1	2,526	2,526	8%	2,557	2,557	6%
15 Kirby-le-Soken & Hamford	1	2,515	2,515	8%	2,556	2,556	6%
16 Manningtree & Lawford, Mistley	3	6,611	2,204	-6%	7,165	2,388	-1%
17 Parkeston	1	2,099	2,099	-10%	2,237	2,237	-7%
18 Pier	3	7,539	2,513	7%	7,832	2,611	8%
19 Southcliff	2	4,764	2,382	2%	4,776	2,388	-1%
20 St John's	2	4,988	2,494	7%	4,903	2,452	1%
21 St Osyth & Little Clacton	3	6,373	2,124	-9%	6,640	2,213	-8%
22 Stour Valley	1	2,369	2,369	1%	2,562	2,562	6%
23 The Bentleys & Weeley	2	4,137	2,069	-12%	4,440	2,220	-8%
24 The Oakleys & Wix	1	2,353	2,353	1%	2,336	2,336	-3%

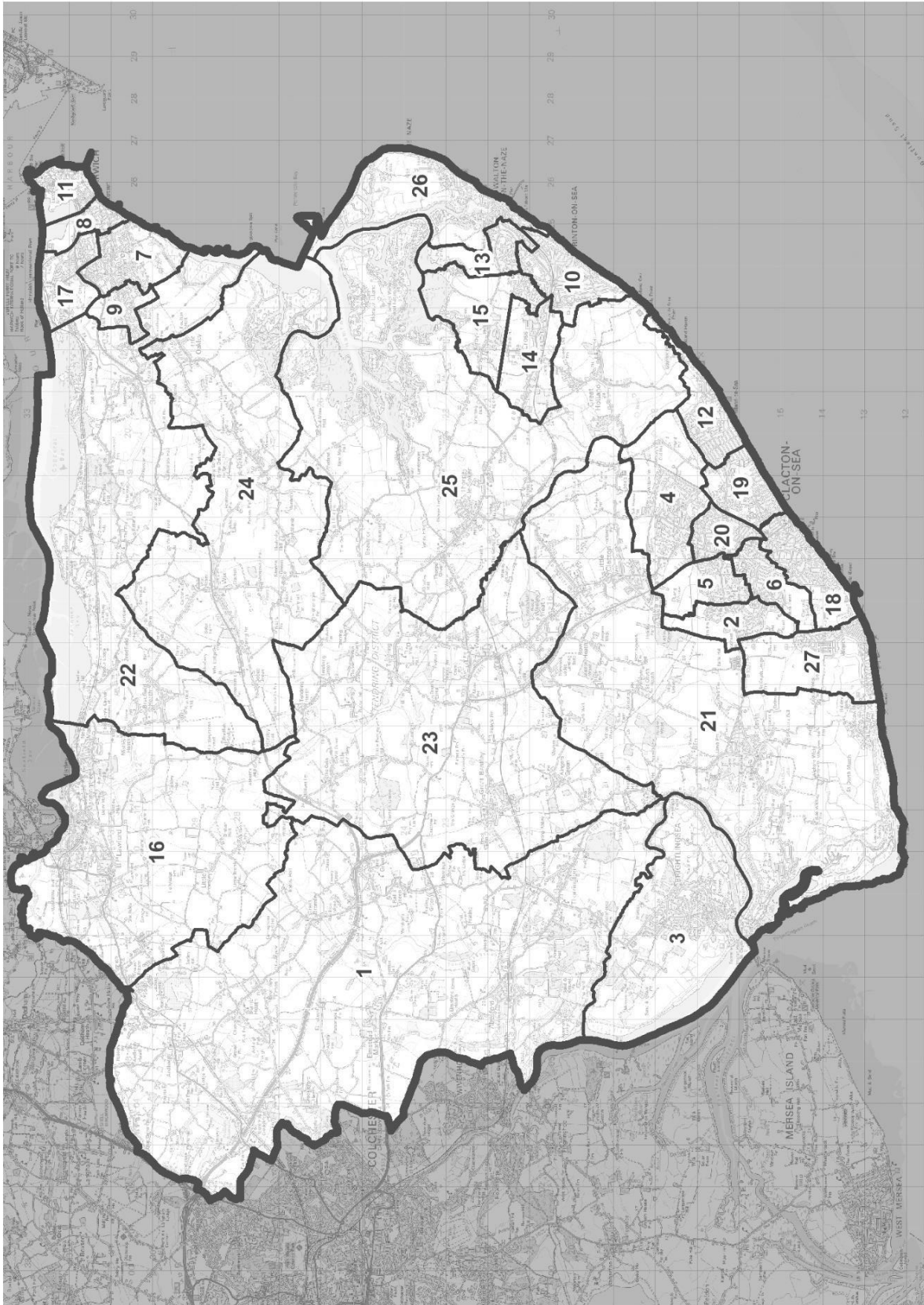
Thorpe, 25 Beaumont & Great Holland	1	2,562	2,562	10%	2,639	2,639	9%
26 Walton	1	2,439	2,439	4%	2,612	2,612	8%
West Clacton & 27 Jaywick Sands	2	4,235	2,118	-9%	4,430	2,215	-8%
<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2016)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2022)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>112,258</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>116,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,339</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,417</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Tendring District Council.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the district. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

## Appendix B

### Outline map



## Key

- 1. Ardleigh, Alresford & Elmstead
- 2. Bluehouse



3. Brightlingsea
4. Burrsville Park
5. Cann Hall
6. Coppins
7. Dovercourt All Saints
8. Dovercourt Bay
9. Dovercourt Tollgate
10. Frinton
11. Harwich & Kingsway
12. Holland Haven
13. Homelands
14. Kirby Cross
15. Kirby-le-Soken & Hamford
16. Lawford, Manningtree & Mistle
17. Parkeston
18. Pier
19. Southcliff
20. St John's
21. St Osyth & Little Clacton
22. Stour Valley
23. The Bentleys & Weeley
24. The Oakleys & Wix
25. Thorpe, Beaumont & Great Holland
26. Walton
27. West Clacton & Jaywick Sands

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website:

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/currentreviews/eastern/essex/tendring>

## Appendix C

### Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/eastern/essex/tendring>

#### Local Authority

- Tendring District Council

#### Councillor

- Councillor D Dixon (Brightlingsea Town Council)

#### Member of Parliament

- Douglas Carswell MP (Clacton)

### Parish and Town Councils

- Brightlingsea Town Council
- Elmstead Parish Council
- Harwich Town Council
- Lawford Parish Council
- Little Oakley Parish Council
- Manningtree Town Council
- Mistley Parish Council
- St Osyth Parish Council
- Thorrington Parish Council

### Local Residents

- Four local residents

## Appendix D

### Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's

Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average

Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents
Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or Town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward

Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at <a href="http://www.nalc.gov.uk">www.nalc.gov.uk</a>
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council